

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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17

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 DODE-00 NRC-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00

ERDA-07 CIAE-00 COME-00 STR-04 MC-02 /037 W

----- 053745

R 270901Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7253

UNCLAS TOKYO 2953

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: HANG GLIDER IMPORT RESTRICTION

REF: STATE 031908

1. EMBASSY HAS CONTACTED JAPANESE IMPORTER AND VERIFIED REPORT OF IMPORT RESTRICTION AS SUBSTANTIALLY CORRECT.

2. EMBASSY DISCUSSED MATTER WITH MITI OFFICIALS FROM AIRCRAFT AND ORDINANCE DIV. AND IMPORT DIV. MITI OFFS STATED THAT THEY WERE NOT SURE OF THE SIZE OF THE HANG GLIDER INDUSTRY IN JAPAN AND THAT THEY THEREFORE COULD NOT DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF CREATION OF QUOTA-FREE EX-OUT AS REQUESTED REFTEL PARA 2 A. THEY REFUSE TO ACCEPT ARGUMENT THAT HANG GLIDERS SHOULD BE RECLASSIFIED AS SPORTING EQUIPMENT, CITING FUNCTION OF EQUIPMENT IS TO FLY IN THE SAME BASIC MANNER AS TRADITIONAL GLIDERS.

3. MITI ATTITUDE RE IMPORT OF HANG GLIDERS IS THAT: THESE ITEMS ARE NEW AND UNKNOWN; JAPANESE MANUFACTURERS, (IF ANY) AND USERS ARE NOT ORGANIZED; AND NO SAFETY STANDARDS HAVE BEEN FORMULATED. LACK OF KNOWLEDGE RE JAPANESE PRODUCTION AND NUMBER OF USERS HAS DICTATED A GO-SLOW ATTITUDE BY MITI ON ANY PROPOSED CHANGES IN IMPORT REGULATIONS.

4. EMBASSY IS IN CONTACT WITH JAPANESE HANG GLIDER ASSOCIATION AND WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THIS SITUATION. WE FORESEE NO UNCLASSIFIED

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RELIEF FROM IMPORT QUOTA RESTRICTIONS UNTIL GOJ AGENCIES HAVE

CONCLUDED THEIR VARIOUS STUDIES OF THIS INDUSTRY AND UNLESS
THEY CONSEQUENTLY DETERMINE THERE IS NO NEED TO PROTECT THE
DOMESTIC INDUSTRY.
HODGSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT SALES, IMPORT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 27 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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